

REMARKS

By virtue of the instant Supplemental Amendment, claims 46-59 and 63-137 are pending. Claims 60-62 were previously canceled. Claims 51, 53, 63, 64, 70, 75, 80, 84, 88, 96, 104, 114, 124, and 131 have been amended herein. No new matter has been introduced. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

The Applicants express their deep gratitude and appreciation to the Examiner for conducting the interview held on August 30, 2004 ("the interview") in connection with the pending claims. During the interview, the Examiner suggested for certain of the claims to be amended in order to clarify the subject matter being claimed therein.

The Applicants thank the Examiner for his suggestions and, in accordance therewith, have amended claims 51, 53, 63, 64, 70, 75, 80, 84, 88, 96, 104, 114, 124, and 131 herein as requested by the Examiner. No new matter has been introduced.

In light of the above, the Applicants believe that claims 46 – 59 and 63 – 137, as amended herein, are in condition for allowance, and a favorable action is respectfully requested. If, for any reason, the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is

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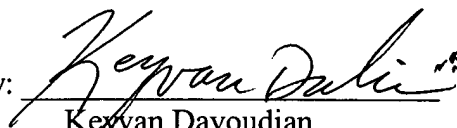
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requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles telephone number (213) 488-7100 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP

Date: October 12, 2004

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